Sites developed by National Culture Fund

4362. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of heritage sites developed/proposed to be developed by the National Culture Fund in Jharkhand and Bihar;

(b) the quantum of funds provided/proposed for each of these States;

(c) the sites developed/proposed to be developed by ASI through Japanese Trust Fund in these States; and

(d) the funds received so far from JTF?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) No proposals have yet been received for the development of heritage sites under the aegis of National Culture Fund in Jharkhand and Bihar.

(c) and (d) The Archaeological Survey of India is actively involved as one of the seven executing agencies under Ajanta-Ellora Development Project, in Maharashtra, funded by JBIC (Japan Bank of International Co-operation), earlier known as OECF (Overseas Economic Co-operation Fund). This project was started in the year 1992. The first phase of the project was to be completed by 31.3.2002. The Archaeological Survey of India has utilised an amount of Rs. 86.38 million on development proposals approved by the Steering Committee, headed by the Secretary, Tourism, Government of India. The ASI has received so far, an amount of Rs. 20.11 million as reimbursement claim of 82 per cent out of expenditure of Rs. 24.535 million, admitted by the JBIC and has further submitted balance claims of an expenditure for Rs. 41.847 million. Total reimbursement proposed for this project works out to Rs. 708 million, from the JBIC.

Maintenance of Sun Temple, Konark

4363. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have adopted a strategy for maintenance and conservation of the Sun Temple, Konark;

(b) whether foreign agencies are also extending financial help for the same; and